State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Aquatic Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 13, 2009

Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu, Hawaii

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO EXTEND TWO (2) DLNR/UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

CONTRACTS, CONTRACT NO. 47471: HAWAII FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE

SYSTEM AND CONTRACT NO. 55137: EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF

RESTRICTED FISHING AREAS FOR IMPROVING THE BOTTOMFISH FISHERY,

FROM JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010 AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL

FUNDING (\$330,000 AND \$300,000, RESPECTIVELY)

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to amend and extend two Contracts between the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii (UH) for on-going fisheries projects. The Supplemental Contracts provide additional federal funding for the projects being conducted by the UH's Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and Department of Oceanography. No State General Funds are being used. The Supplemental Contracts also will extend the period of the Contracts from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. The projects described below are for fisheries research activities essential to the management of our fishery resources. Federal funds for the projects are being provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Program.

Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) System
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (Contract No. 47471)

This project maintains/improves the popular statewide FAD system and makes it more cost-effective. The scope of the project remains the same this year, with FAD fabrication and deployment being continued, as well as the maintenance of the FAD public information system. Ongoing FAD-related research will continue regarding the impact of FADs on Hawaii's pelagic fish resources, especially the influence of FADs on movements and distributions of tuna and marlin in Hawaiian waters. The overall efficacy of the FAD system will continue to be examined and improved by modifying mooring strategies based on analysis of previous deployment results. This will have positive impacts on FAD longevity. Supplemental Agreement No. 9 will provide \$330,000 in federal funds; the UH will provide the required State match component (\$110,000).

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Restricted Fishing Areas for Improving the Bottomfish Fishery Department of Oceanography (Contract No. 55137)

In FY10, work will concentrate on monitoring bottomfish populations inside and outside select RFAs using BOTCAM drop cameras. Data collected from these surveys and previous surveys will then be processed and analyzed for use in helping the Department evaluate the effectiveness of the State's closed area management plan for this fishery. Supplemental Contract No. 3 will provide \$300,000 in federal funds; the UH will provide the required State match component (\$100,000).

Approvals to amend/extend the Contracts are being requested concurrently from the Governor, through the Department of Budget and Finance for review and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Board authorize the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, amend/extend two Contracts (Nos. 47471 and 55137) with the University of Hawaii."

Respectfully submitted,

DAN POLHEMUS Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

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